

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 37 C.F.R. 1.97, and 37 C.F.R. 1.98, Applicant hereby directs the Examiner's attention to the following references. These documents are cited in one or more related U.S. applications (U.S. patent application nos. 10/590,150; 11/791,975; and 10/590,708).

- Copies of the documents (1) through (4) are enclosed. Copies of documents (5) and (6) are not enclosed since they are U.S. patents or published applications, which are readily available to the Examiner. A duly completed Form PTO/SB/08a is enclosed herein. Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to consider these references and to make them of record in this application

P50298.A09

by initialing in the appropriate spaces on the Form PTO/SB/08a. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner include a copy of the initialed Form PTO/SB/08a with the next communication from the U.S. PTO.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(b)(1), this Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the mailing of an Office action. Accordingly, no fees are required. Should a fee be necessary for consideration of the papers filed herein, please charge any fees and refund excess payments to Deposit Account No. 50-2929.

Should the Examiner have any questions or comments regarding this matter, the undersigned may be contacted at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
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July 17, 2008
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